

Chapter 5

Publicity Programmes



The Department is committed to ensuring that no one who qualifies for legal aid is denied access to justice because of lack of means. Every year the Department organises or participates in various activities to enhance the public's awareness and knowledge of the legal aid services provided by the Department.

Promotional Activities

Law Week 2024

On 24 February 2024, the Director of Legal Aid, Mr Chris Chong officiated at the opening ceremony of Law Week 2024 under the theme "Law For All" organised by the Law Society of Hong Kong. Colleagues of the Legal Aid Department actively participated in the three sessions of Free Legal Advice Programme, held at Tin Shui Wai, Ma On Shan and Sham Shui Po in February, March and May respectively, by providing information on our services and answering enquiries.



Promotion of Legal Aid Services to Legal Practitioners

The Department places great importance on working in partnership with the legal profession to deliver quality legal aid services to the public.

On 11 September 2024, Assistant Principal Legal Aid Counsel / Application & Processing, Ms Emily Ho and Assistant Principal Legal Aid Counsel / Crime, Mr Simon Lau conducted a training course for solicitors, namely "Update on Legal Aid Schemes", organised by the Hong Kong Academy of Law.

Promotion of Legal Aid Services to External Bodies / Organisations

We exchanged views with external bodies and organisations on issues of common interest and on the latest development of legal aid in Hong Kong through various exchange programmes and visits.

On 13 March 2024, Mr Hiroyasu Tanigaki and Ms Satomi Furukawa, two officials from the Hague Convention Division, Consular Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan visited the Legal Aid Department. Deputy Director of Legal Aid / Application & Processing, Ms Juliana Chan and Assistant Principal Legal Aid Counsel / Application & Processing, Ms Jenny Leung briefed them on the work and services provided by the Department.



On 22 March 2024, Legal Aid Counsel / Civil Litigation, Ms Tammy Hui briefed a group of students from a local secondary school on the work and services of the Department, and shared with them career-related information. Students also attended court hearings at the High Court for a first-hand experience of legal proceedings.



On 22 April 2024, the Chairman of China Legal Service (H.K.) Ltd, Mr Chen Junsheng; Vice-chairman cum General Manager, Mr Zhao Zhenhua; and Director of Research Department, Mr Ares Lee visited the Legal Aid Department. Director of Legal Aid, Mr Chris Chong, Assistant Director of Legal Aid / Policy & Development, Ms Amy Lee and Assistant Principal Legal Aid Counsel / Legal and

Management Support, Mr David Chow met with them and exchanged views on legal aid services.

On 8 July 2024, Legal Aid Counsel / Application & Processing, Ms Michelle Yip briefed a group of students from various secondary schools which joined the "CLAP@JC" programme on the work and services of the Department, and shared with them career-related information. Students also attended court hearings at the High Court for a first-hand experience of legal proceedings.

Chapter 5 Publicity Programmes

On 15 July 2024, Legal Aid Counsel / Crime, Mr Philip Cheng briefed a group of students from various secondary schools which joined the "CLAP@JC" programme on the work and services of the Department, and shared with them career-related information. Students also attended court hearings at the High Court for a first-hand experience of legal proceedings.



On 29 July 2024, Solicitor / Official Solicitor's Office, Ms Josephine Tang received a group of law students of the East China University of Political Science and Law from Shanghai and introduced to them the work and services of the Legal Aid Department. The visit was co-organised by the University and the Hong Kong Bar Association.

Chapter 5 Publicity Programmes

On 9 September 2024, Assistant Principal Legal Aid Counsel / Kowloon Branch Office, Ms Rita Chin received a delegation of 14 Mainland officials and introduced to them the work and services of the Department.



On 21 November 2024, Assistant Principal Legal Aid Counsel / Civil Litigation, Mr Ted Lee received four representatives from Zhejiang Provincial Department of Justice and briefed them on the work and services of the Department.

Please visit https://www.lad.gov.hk/eng/wnew/event_2024.html for the details and photos of the events.

Reaching out to the Community

On 27 January 2024, the Education Bureau together with other bureaus and departments organised the 2024 Education and Careers Expo at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre. Legal Aid Counsel / Crime, Mr James Yeung and Senior Legal Clerk II / Crime Miss Carol Chow participated in one of the Sharing Sessions in CSB's booth, introducing to the public the work and services of the Legal Aid Department. They also shared their job experience and career information on entry requirement and daily duties of Legal Aid Counsel and Law Clerk grade officers.



On 12 March 2024, Legal Aid Counsel / Application & Processing, Miss Wendy Bien hosted a talk for frontline staff and volunteers of Po Leung Kuk Tsui Lam Centre and introduced the work and services of the Department relating to family issues such as matrimonial litigation and application for restraining order.

On 31 August 2024, Senior Legal Aid Counsel / Legal and Management Support, Ms Katrina Ng delivered a talk on legal aid about employees' compensation to more than 120 members of the public at the Mei Foo Community Hall.

Chapter 5 Publicity Programmes

On 11 and 16 September and 3 October 2024, the Civil Service Bureau held Government Career Fair 2024 at the City University of Hong Kong, the University of Hong Kong and the Chinese University of Hong Kong respectively. The legal aid counsel and law clerks participated in the event and shared with university students career information and other information about the work and services of the Department.



On 23 September 2024, Senior Legal Aid Counsel / Application & Processing, Mr Felix Chiu delivered a talk for members of the Federation of Hong Kong & Kowloon Labour Unions and shared information on the services of the Department and information related to employees' compensation and personal injuries at work.

On 29 October 2024, Legal Aid Counsel/ Legal and Management Support, Mr Jet Luk, gave a talk to a group of newly arrived ethnic minorities organised by the International Social Service Hong Kong Branch. He shared information about the work and services of the Department, and provided information on the application procedures, requirements and eligibility criteria.



The Department participated in the Post-Secondary Student Summer Internship Programme. The Department also participated in the programme organised by the Civil Service Bureau to offer internship placements for students with disabilities and also for non-ethnic Chinese students. In 2024, the Department recruited 11 summer interns under the Post-Secondary Student Summer Internship Programme, 1 intern with disability and 1 non-ethnic Chinese intern.

Television Interview

The Director of Legal Aid appeared in a television interview with Now TV's current affairs programme "Now Forum" 《大鳴大放》, and shared his views and insights on the work and services of the Department.

Newspaper Interviews

Ms Sally Cheung, Senior Legal Aid Counsel, shared her experience in a media interview with the Ta Kung Pao and Wen Wei Po. Mr Eric Yung and Mr Jackson Lai, Legal Aid Counsel, shared their daily work on handling civil legal aid cases which mainly involve personal injuries and family litigation matters, in a media interview by Sing Tao Daily.

Updating of Departmental Leaflets

The Department published and updated the leaflets "Guide to Legal Aid Services", "Customer Service Standards" and "How to apply Legal Aid in Criminal Cases" to reflect on the update on offence endangering national security after the Safeguarding National Security Ordinance came into effect in March 2024. The series of leaflets "Important Notice for Legally-aided Persons" were also updated with the additional payment method of Faster Payment System (FPS) and other general information.

Other publications such as the Financial Information Sheet, which contained comprehensive information on financial eligibility, deductible personal allowances, contributions payable by an aided person towards the costs of litigation and the Director's First Charge were also revised to reflect changes implemented in 2024.

A list of publications of the Department is at [Appendix 5](#).

New Video

Mr Chris Chong, the Director of Legal Aid, casted in a short video, reminding legally aided persons to exercise caution when nominating a lawyer. They should avoid falling into traps of touting agents and firms.



New Posters

In 2024, two new posters were designed. The poster "Report on Change" reminds legally aided persons that they should report to the Department any change in their financial resources without delay. The poster "Nominating a Lawyer" reminds legally aided persons that there is no need to engage a lawyer or an agent to apply for legal aid, and that they should exercise caution in the selection of a lawyer.



Measures to Combat Improper Touting Activities

As a measure to further combat improper touting activities of claims recovery agents among injured workers and accident victims, the Department continued to arrange the broadcast of the TV API "Beware of the touting activities of recovery agents" produced by the Department of Justice at public waiting areas of the Department from 1 August 2023 to 31 July 2025, including the Information & Application Services Unit (IASU) of the Application and Processing Division and Crime Section of Litigation Division on 25/F of Queensway Government Offices; as well as the IASU of Kowloon Branch Office.

A poster on anti-touting activities was designed and displayed at our offices, District Social Welfare Offices of Social Welfare Department, offices of Employees' Compensation Division of the Labour Department, Home Affairs Enquiry Centres, community centres and community halls.

Website

The Department regularly updates the contents of its website to provide comprehensive and timely information to the public and legal aid practitioners. In 2024, the Department continued enhancing the homepage to meet with the latest requirements of the Digital Policy Office.